



Migrant Magazine

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Important Dates

September 6-8 2011
Fall Academy
Newport

November 14-16, 2011
ID&R conference,
Nashville, Tenn.

November 15-16, 2011
Summer Learning Confer-
ence
San Francisco, Calif.

April 29-May 2, 2012
NASDME Conference
Portland, Ore.

September 2012
OSY Dissemination Event
Clearwater, Fla.

CONGRATULATIONS

April Willis-Harper was
awarded Metcalfe
County Administrator of
the Year!

Happy Birthday!

Laura Puente
Northeastern Re-
gional Recruiter
July 17



Summer Learning in Kentucky

The Migrant Education Program (MEP) is having a very busy summer. With summer camps, parent involvement events, home visits and field trips occurring across Kentucky, students are staying actively engaged.

Central Region MEP Coordinator April Willis-Harper organized a successful parent involvement field trip to Louisville. Approximately 500 children and their families visited the Louisville Science Center and the Louisville Slugger Museum. Parents and students toured the Louisville Slugger factory and witnessed bats being manufactured. Each participant received a mini Louisville Slugger upon completion of the factory tour. At the Science Museum, students investigated, explored and questioned as they interacted with

the exhibits. They also were



able to experience the wonders of an IMAX movie.

Northeastern Region MEP Assistant Coordinator Jackie Roth traveled with 40 students and staff to New York City. Students experienced the Broadway play *The Lion King*, visited Times Square and rode a ferry around the Statue of Liberty. This was a once-in-a-lifetime learning experience for all involved.

The Western Region MEP facilitated a summer camp at Kentucky Dam Village, which was attended by 37 middle school students. The theme this year was "Sports." Students learned team-building skills, sportsmanship and perseverance. The children met a former New York Yankee's baseball player, Kent Wallace, and each student was able to practice pitching with him.

The Southeastern Region MEP hosted a week-long **K**nowledge, **E**xcellence, **Y**es I Can! Attitude, and **S**uccess (KEYS) Camp. Students new to the summer program researched information about their future careers using the Internet and shared on the last day with posters.

The Central and Southeastern Regions were able to send five students to Washington, D.C. as part of the "Close Up" program. The students learned how the U.S. government works. Students also visited national monuments and museums.

Helpful Resources for Advocates

Support services are paramount to families and can have a direct impact on the educational success of a child. There are many resources available that can benefit families. For example, The Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs (CCSHCN) provides medical services through a variety of clinics across the state. To reach CCSHCN, [e-mail](#) or call (800) 232-1160. To view the CCSHCN website, [click here](#).

The Lions Club assists with visually impaired and local youth with medical needs. The Lions Club can help families with eye examinations, glasses, food and more. For information and to view the group's website, [click here](#).

Click [here](#) for a free ocean video. This can be used for an ocean-themed summer program for elementary students.

Tina Purcell from Pulaski County shared a site for iPads to help students improve their math facts. The *Success Maker Speed Games* iPad app is now available, and it can be downloaded FREE until September, and then it will be \$1.99. Download the app through the iTunes Store here: [The Success Maker Speed Games](#)



*The National
Migrant Hotline
(800) 234-8848*

Kentucky Migrant Scholarships and Emergency Fund

For the upcoming 2011-12 school year, the Kentucky Migrant Education Program (KY MEP) awarded \$3,600 to seven migrant students, which will help with their educational expenses. These funds are made possible through the scholarship auction and other fundraising efforts conducted throughout the year. Everyone is strongly encourage to donate to the fund so that the KY MEP can continue to help further educate Kentucky's migrant children after they have graduated high school or received their GED.

In order to provide emergency aid and educational financial

assistance to migrant farm workers and families in Kentucky, the Harvest of Hope Foundation houses two funds: the Kentucky Migrant Emergency Fund and the Kentucky Migrant Student Scholarship Fund. The two funds are funded solely on donations. Tax-deductible donations can be made to the Harvest of Hope Foundation and sent to the attention of Philip Kellerman, President, PO Box 358025, Gainesville FL 32635. Please indicate in the memo line of the check or with a note to which fund the donation applies. Donations to the Kentucky funds are reserved solely for migrant farm work-

ers and families in Kentucky. Donations also may be made via credit card, Pay Pal or EFT at the foundation website www.harvestofhope.net.

Thank you for your continued support. The KY MEP hopes everyone plans to participate in the fall 2011 Migrant Scholarship Auction by donating items. To help support both the Harvest of Hope scholarship and Kentucky's Emergency Funds, hold events – bake sales, car washes, raffles – in districts to help raise funds. The KY MEP hopes all will get the word out in the community. For questions, please e-mail Michael.Hay@eku.edu.

Migrant Hotline in Kentucky

Kentucky has been helping several migrant families through the help of the Migrant hotline. Bob Thomas, the director of Information Services for ESCORT, sent a list of the 32 phone calls that were made in April 2011. These 32 phone calls come from 13 different zip codes across Kentucky. To view, click [here](#). Thomas has

mapped out exactly from where all phone calls were generated. This can give recruiters an idea of where migrant families may live and who needs help.

Everyone is asked to provide information about the migrant hotline number to migrant families. It is a valuable number that can help families get in touch with local services. It is

also beneficial to have the families call when they move, so they can easily be re-recruited into the program. For free information to give to families, click the link to the [National Migrant Hotline](#). The information is provided in English and Spanish and includes brochures, [free plastic cups](#), nail files and key chains.

MSIX Accounts: Get One!

Anyone who works with migrant children in schools or a district should set up an MSIX account. MSIX is the national migrant database that provides users with information on a child's demographics, enrollment, assessment and school credit data.

In order to receive an MSIX account, first complete an [application](#). Once this applica-

tion is completed, please send it to the appropriate regional office for approval and account set up. Please complete this process by September 1 for the MSIX trainings at the Kentucky Fall Academy.

Please encourage recruiters, counselors or anyone who works with migrant children to sign up for an account, and please send the link to apply

for an account.

MSIX is a great tool for interstate and intrastate notification for when a child moves. It also can be used to verify previous moves; check on LEP, IEP and immunization status; and view assessment and credit history. The assessment and credit information in MSIX can be used to place children in appropriate levels.

A New Look for the Kentucky Department of Education Web Page

Over the past few months, staff in the Office of Knowledge, Information and Data Services (KIDS) and the Division of Communications and Community Engagement (DCCE) have worked on revamping of the [KDE homepage](#).

The new [KDE homepage](#) has been organized in a user friendly way to simplify and avoid clutter. The biggest changes are the links on the left side. Many of the links have been renamed.

Therefore, in order to navigate the page to find migrant information, please follow these steps.

1. Click on Administrative Resources.
2. Click on Federal Programs and Instructional Equity.
3. Then, go to Title Programs.
4. Click on Title I, Part C Education of Migrant Children.

This will lead to the page with all migrant documents: forms, handbooks, applications and other resources.

This new homepage is just the beginning of what will be a major overhaul of the KDE website. KDE hopes to eventually move to a new content management platform. The KIDS and DCCE Team is working hard to make the website more useful and easier to navigate.



Ways to Recruit Out-of-School Youth

The Out-of-School Youth (OSY) population has unique needs resulting from their migrant lifestyle. They face all the obstacles to education encountered by other migrant students and more. The OSY need advocates who can both motivate and help them access needed services. Since the OSY population has a tendency to “fly under the radar,” recruiting can sometimes be a challenge. Below are a few

tips to assist in recruitment efforts:

- Use Internet sites such as Google Maps, Crop Scape, USDA and H2A websites to identify recruitment areas
- Be persistent but not pushy. Let the farmer/grower get comfortable with you.
- Ask to speak at relevant community events such as Ag Expos.
- Bring mini lessons that can

be done on-site while recruiting.

- Never talk down to the youth. Let them know you are someone who cares.
- Let them know that you are there in their best interest.

For more tips and information, [click here](#).



Calling All Advocates . . .

The Migrant Education Program is revising the Migrant Advocate handbook. Last year, State Migrant Director Andrea Carter revised the recruiter handbook.

This year ID & R Coordinator Christina Benassi is working on revising the advocate handbook. However, she needs the assistance of several advocates. The regional coordinators have each volunteered two advocates from their regions to assist with the revision process.

The Migrant Education Program is revising the Migrant Advocate handbook. Last year, State Migrant Director Andrea Carter revised the recruiter handbook.

If you know of an advocate, or if you are an advocate and want to be involved or have something you would like to see in the handbook, please contact [Christina Benassi](#). She welcomes any advice.

With the help of the advocates, regional coordinators, Andrea Carter and a few others, Christina will be able to complete the necessary revisions by August 15. This handbook should be available for all migrant staff at the Fall Academy in September.

Thanks very much to everyone who is helping with this process.

Families in the News:

Lucas Hammond

Michael Hay shared this story about his nephew, which appeared on WTVQ-TV, the ABC affiliate in Lexington, on May 25. His nephew, Lucas Hammond, was diagnosed with a rare form of eye cancer, retinoblastoma, at the age of 1. The story, *Faces of Cancer*, helps people become aware of cancer in children. Reporter Megan Skaggs interviewed Lucas' family. Lucas, age 7, is able to play baseball now like other children.

To watch Lucas, click on this link:

<http://wtvq.com/iphone/8352-faces-of-cancer-lucas-story>



Migrant and Homeless Working Together

Henderson County's Migrant Program worked together with the Homeless Program to visit Frankfort for a history lesson. Students rode the Frankfort trolley, which included a guided tour of the city, toured the Capitol and visited the Rebecca Ruth Candy factory. For more information, please contact Midge Stribling at midge.stribling@henderson.kyschools.us.



Andrea Carter -- State Migrant Director

Christina Benassi -- ID&R Coordinator

500 Mero Street, Frankfort KY

Phone: (502) 564-3791



Getting to Know April Willis-Harper

Our spotlight person is April Willis-Harper, Central Region migrant coordinator.

Willis-Harper taught at Barren County Middle School from 1998-2002. From 2002 to 2005, she was a guidance counselor at Adairsville School in Logan County. She was the migrant advocate for Barren County from 2005-2008. In the spring of 2008, she became the regional coordinator for the Central Region Office located in Metcalfe County.

Some of you may be wondering how April became a regional coordinator. She said, "I was

working as a guidance counselor in Logan County when my husband was assistant principal. He got an elementary principal's job in Barren County. My former principal, whom I taught under, Mark Wallace, was director of Special Programs. He told me that there was an opening for migrant advocate, so I applied for the job. I really didn't know a whole lot about migrant at the time, but it sounded very interesting. After the first year I was hooked and knew this is a job I wanted to do for a long time."

April will be married to Scott for nine years this July. They have two children, Aleia Kate

(6) and Grant (4) and two cats. She enjoys photography, Circuit machines, Disney World, public speaking and spending time with her friends and family. She also enjoys serving in her church's children's ministry at Calvary Baptist Church.

And, she loves the Kentucky Wildcats. She cheers very obnoxiously when she supports her team.

If you want to take her out for dinner, she loves Outback and Patti's Settlement in Grand Rivers.